AMENDMENTS TO THE CLAIMS:

This listing of claims will replace all prior versions and listings of claims in the application:

1. (Currently amended) A method for preventing access to a shared peripheral device by a processor-based node in a multinode system, comprising:

(1) determining a first list of nodes in the multinode system, including the processor-based node, that have access to the shared peripheral device;

(2) generating a first value reflecting the first list of nodes;

(3) storing at the shared peripheral device the first value;

(4) sending an access request from the processor-based node to the shared peripheral device, the request including a second value representing a second list of nodes in the multinode system;

(5) determining whether ~~said~~ the first and second values are identical;

(6) if the first and second values are identical, then executing the access request to the shared peripheral device; and

(7) repeating steps 5 and 6 each time an access request is sent from the processor-based node to the device.

2. (Currently amended) The method of claim 1, wherein:

~~said~~ the first value is generated utilizing at least in part information relating to a first time corresponding to ~~said~~ the first list of nodes; and

~~said~~ the second value is generated utilizing at least in part information relating to a second time corresponding to ~~said~~ the second list of nodes.

3. (Currently amended) The method of claim 2, wherein:

step 5 includes the step of determining whether ~~said~~ the first and second times are identical.

4. (Currently amended) The method of claim 1, wherein ~~said~~ the first and second values are generated based at least in part on epoch numbers generated by a membership protocol executing on said multinode system.

5-13. (Cancelled)

14. (Currently amended) A computer usable medium having computer readable code embodied therein for preventing access to a shared peripheral device by a processor-based node in a multinode system, the computer readable code comprising:

a determination module configured to determine a first list of nodes in the multinode system, including the processor-based node, that have access to the shared peripheral device;

a generation module configured to generate a first value corresponding to the first list of nodes;

a storage module configured to store the first value at the shared peripheral device;

a reception module configured to receive access requests from a node to the shared peripheral device, each access request including a second ~~unique~~ value representing a second list of nodes in the multinode system;

a comparator module configured to determine, for each access request received, whether ~~said~~ the first value and the second value[[s]] are identical; and

an execution module for executing each access request at the peripheral device, if the first value and the second value[[s]] are identical.

15. (Currently amended) The computer usable medium of claim 14, wherein said computer readable code includes a submodule configured to generate ~~said~~ the first value using information relating to a first time corresponding to ~~said~~ the first list of nodes, and

further comprising a module configured to generate ~~said~~ the second value using information relating to a second time corresponding to ~~said~~ the second list of nodes.

16. (Currently amended) The computer usable medium of claim 15, wherein the comparator module includes a submodule configured to determine whether ~~said~~ the first value and the second value[[s]] are identical.

17. (Currently amended) A computer usable medium having computer readable code embodied therein for preventing access to a shared peripheral device by a processor-based node in a multinode system having a plurality of nodes, the shared

peripheral device being coupled to the multinode system by a resource controller, the computer readable code comprising:

a membership monitor module configured to determine a membership list of the plurality of nodes, including ~~said~~ the shared peripheral device, on the multinode system at predetermined times, including at least at a time when ~~the~~ membership of the multinode system changes;

a resource manager module configured to determine when the shared peripheral device is in a failed state and to communicate the failure of the shared peripheral device to ~~said~~ the membership monitor to indicate to the membership monitor to generate a new membership list;

a configuration value module configured to generate a unique value including ~~said~~ the new membership list and to store ~~said~~ the unique value locally at each of the plurality of nodes ~~node~~ on the system; and

an access control module configured to block access requests by ~~at least one~~ a requesting node to ~~said~~ the shared peripheral device when the ~~locally stored~~ unique value [[a]] stored locally at the ~~said~~ requesting node does not equal ~~the unique~~ a value stored at ~~said~~ the resource controller.

18. (Currently amended) The computer usable medium of claim 17, wherein ~~said~~ the configuration value module is configured to execute independently of any action by ~~said~~ the shared ~~resource~~ peripheral device when ~~said~~ the shared ~~resource~~ peripheral device is in a failed state.

19. (Currently amended) The computer usable medium of claim 17, wherein ~~said~~ the membership monitor module is configured to execute independently of any action by ~~said~~ the shared ~~resource~~ peripheral device when ~~said~~ the shared ~~resource~~ peripheral device is in a failed state.

20. (Currently amended) The computer usable medium of claim 17, wherein ~~said~~ the resource manager module is configured to execute independently of any action by ~~said~~ the shared ~~resource~~ peripheral device when ~~said~~ the shared ~~resource~~ peripheral device is in a failed state.

21. (Currently amended) The computer usable medium of claim 17, wherein ~~said~~ the configuration value module is configured to execute independently of any action by ~~said~~ the shared ~~resource~~ peripheral device when ~~said~~ the shared ~~resource~~ peripheral device is in a failed state.

22. (Currently amended) The computer usable medium of claim 17, wherein ~~said~~ the access control module is configured to execute independently of any action by ~~said~~ the shared ~~resource~~ peripheral device when ~~said~~ the shared ~~resource~~ peripheral device is in a failed state.

23. (Currently amended) The computer usable medium of claim 17, wherein ~~said~~ the configuration value module includes a submodule configured to generate the

unique value based at least in part upon a time stamp indicating the time at which the corresponding membership list was generated.

24-26. (Cancelled)